

## Amendments to the Claims

### I. Amendments

Please cancel claims 11 and 12 without prejudice or disclaimer to the claimed subject matter.

Please amend claims 1 and 5 to read as indicated below.

### II. The Claims of the Present Application

Claim 1. **(Currently Amended)** A ceramic roller, used in a fixing device, which comprises a shaft, a cylindrical layer, and a surface coating layer arranged in that order from the central side thereof, at least a part of the cylindrical layer being made of a ceramic, said ceramic having with a low bulk density of 0.2 to 1.5 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, ~~the ceramic and~~ being formed from 100 parts by weight of an inorganic binder a glass frit or glass frits and 0 to 500 parts by weight of a heat-resistant inorganic material.

Claim 2. **(Original)** A ceramic roller with a low heat capacity according to claim 1, characterized in that the cylindrical layer is formed of a ceramic with a low bulk density having a heat capacity per unit volume of  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  to  $1.5 \times 10^{-3}$  KJ/(K · cm<sup>3</sup>).

Claim 3. **(Original)** A ceramic roller according to claim 1, characterized in that the thermal conductivity of the cylindrical layer is in the range of 0.03 to 1.0 W/ (m · K).

Claim 4. **(Previously Presented)** A ceramic roller according to claim 1 characterized in that grooves or convexities and concavities are formed on the peripheral surface of the cylindrical layer.

Claim 5. **(Currently Amended)** A ceramic roller according to claim 1, characterized in that the cylindrical layer is provided with a hollow shaft hole into which ~~the two~~ shafts are disposed, the top-end of each shaft protruding externally from the cylindrical layer, the other end being fixed

in one of both ends of the shaft hole, and the part of the shaft hole which exists between both the shafts constituting a hollow portion.

Claim 6. **(Previously Presented)** A ceramic roller according to claim 1, characterized in that the surface coating layer is made of a fluororesin.

Claim 7. **(Original)** A ceramic roller according to claim 6, characterized in that the fluororesin is a tube of PFA resin.

Claim 8. **(Previously Presented)** A ceramic roller according to claim 1, characterized in that the surface coating layer may be coated with a glass layer.

Claim 9. **(Previously Presented)** A ceramic roller according to claim 1, characterized in that the ceramic roller is used in a fixing device.

Claim 10. **(Previously Presented)** A ceramic roller according to claim 1, characterized in that the ceramic roller is used in a non-pressing part of the fixing device.

Claim 11. **(Cancelled)**

Claim 12. **(Cancelled)**